

Railroad To Coast Looms Imminent

The Grants Pass-Coast railroad which eventually will give the Rogue River valley an outlet to the Crescent City harbor, has been completed with the exception of a little ballasting, to the Waters Creek station. This fulfills the Twohy Brothers Company's contract with Grants Pass to build the railroad to Hays Hill within six months time limit. Two trains each way daily are now running over the road.

R. B. Miller, formerly traffic manager of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Company, is rumored to be the new president and general manager of the road. Mr. Miller is one of the big railroad men of the northwest and his association with the enterprise would seem to indicate that the Twohys do not intend to stop with the construction now completed.

Another project, the government aid for the Crescent City harbor, is optimistically viewed as a result of a telegram received in Grants Pass stating that the board of army engineers in its report recommended the harbor for an appropriation to cover the cost of the breakwater, this cost being given at \$490,000. Of this amount which it is estimated the breakwater will cost, the report makes its recommendation contingent upon the providing of \$100,000 by private donation and the construction of the railroad from Grants Pass. While of course this does not necessarily mean that congress will appropriate the amount recommended this year, it does assure the Crescent City harbor of ultimate attention from the government and probably means immediate commencement of development work. The people of Del Norte county, in which Crescent City is located, have pledged \$250,000 toward the harbor development, which is estimated will cost a total of \$2,000,000.

The development of the harbor and the completion of the railroad from Grants Pass are dependent one upon the other, and everything now points toward an early completion of both projects.

The Hotchkiss company has built twelve miles of railroad this way from Crescent City, and this will be included in the completed road. There is now but forty miles of country to be spanned by the steel.

Auto Wheel Goes On Mad Rampage

T. G. Boyd of Medford was sailing blithely down Main street at the wheel of a Brush car of medieval ancestry. He skillfully steered around the corner from the Plaza onto North Main street. Most of the car kept on going toward Medford, but the right hand rear wheel decided to do its Christmas shopping early, spun off the axle and started over to call on Mr. Shoudy at the Elkhorn gun store. The wheel got as far as the plate glass window, jumped through the glass and ended its mad career peacefully in the window among a miscellaneous collection of fishing tackle, hatchets and salmon eggs. The rest of the car with Mr. Boyd still safely aboard continued down the street to the Ashland Hotel, where it decided to wait for the wheel.

The wheel narrowly missed a lady on the sidewalk. The plate glass window was valued at about forty plunks, and an understanding was reached between Mr. Shoudy and Mr. Boyd without trouble. The wheel was put back on and the journey continued. The front of the Elkhorn gun store now has a rather board appearance.

La Grippe Epidemic All Over State

An epidemic of la grippe seems to extend all over Oregon, and Ashland is receiving her dose along with the rest, although probably not to such a great degree. The schools of Eugene were closed Monday because of la grippe and Oregon Agricultural College was dismissed for the holidays two days earlier than planned. Doctors attribute the epidemic to a continued period of cloudy weather over the entire state. A few days of clear weather or a hard snow and cold would end the epidemic here, it is believed.

Elks' Christmas Tree Tomorrow

Preparations are being completed for the Elks' Christmas tree for the children of Ashland which will be held at the Vining Theatre Friday evening of this week. Over 500 children have already registered at Provoat Brothers' store. Each child is given a ticket, which must be presented at the door of the Vining. Toys and candy are coming in from many sources, and every little boy or girl in Ashland who registers and attends will receive a remembrance.

Any one and every one is urged to contribute small gifts, which will be distributed by the committee at its discretion or as indicated by the donor. Nothing expensive should be given at this affair, as all the little folks should be treated alike.

Owing to the heavy registration, there will be a matinee performance and Christmas tree given at 3 o'clock on Friday afternoon, which all children eight years of age or under must attend. The older children will attend the evening performance, which will be identical with the matinee.

Klamath Feud Ends in Shooting

A feud of long standing over the ownership of property occupied by contending claimants blazed out into a pitched battle with rifles, shotguns and pistols, between two families at Dodd Hollow, twenty-five miles southeast of Klamath Falls, Monday.

On one side Mrs. Alma Kuehne is dead. On the other, Guy Hunter is at the Blackburn hospital at Klamath Falls with a bullet wound through his arm. Hunter's wife, Ernest Lawrence and Andrew Kuehne, son of the dead woman, are held pending investigation.

The affray is said to be the aftermath of Lawrence's trial last week on arson charges in which the jury disagreed.

There are two houses on the disputed property, a large one, occupied by Lawrence and the Hunter family, and the small one, into which the Kuehnes moved last week while Lawrence was on trial. The Hunters allege the Kuehnes cut off the water supply of the big house, necessitating water being hauled from a distance.

According to Hunter's story, he started to drive out for water, when he encountered several "no trespassing" signs, which, he says, had been placed by young Kuehne. As he passed through a gate near the small house, he said, Andrew Kuehne opened fire upon him, wounding Hunter in the arm. The latter whipped up his team and fled. Young Kuehne emptied two magazine pistols after him, the bullets inflicting wounds upon the horses.

Drawn by the firing, Lawrence, Kuehne alleges, came to the door of the Hunter house and fired twice at Kuehne with a shotgun, and then opened fire upon him with a rifle. Mrs. Alma Kuehne, Andrew Kuehne's mother, came to her son's aid with a rifle and fired at Lawrence.

Mrs. Hunter then joined in the affray, firing from the window of the house and shooting Mrs. Kuehne through the abdomen. Andrew Kuehne ceased firing when his mother was wounded. The dying woman passed away at Merrill, where she had been taken for medical attendance.

Pass Homesteader Found Dead in Bed

John McLean, a homesteader who lived about three miles up Jones creek, about five miles from Grants Pass, was found dead in his cabin by neighbors Tuesday, and from the condition of the body it is evident that he had been dead for three or four weeks. One of the neighbors noticed that the McLean cow, chickens, etc., were not receiving attention, and an investigation at about noon Tuesday disclosed Mr. McLean lying dead in his bed. The body was in a bad state of preservation and had been mutilated by the dead man's dog, which had been starved to feasting upon human flesh.

An inquest will be held, although no foul play is suspected, the death being attributed to natural causes. A sister of the dead man has been notified.

It is Our Sincere Wish

That you have a very merry Christmas, and a New Year abounding in achievement and happiness.

We have unbounded faith in the future of Ashland and sincerely believe and confidently expect that the year 1916 will witness the greatest prosperity and advancement that the city has ever known.

It is the wish of the Tidings that each of its patrons participate abundantly in this prosperity.

Ashland Tidings

Messrs. Nininger, Lamb, Root, Banta Newly Elected Councilmen

The annual city election passed off quietly Tuesday with a lighter vote than usually cast. No close contests developed except in the third ward, where but ten votes separated two of the candidates for the two-year term.

C. W. Banta is elected for two years from the first ward, C. W. Root for two years from the second ward, A. C. Nininger for two years from the third ward and A. L. Lamb for one year from the third ward. Mr. Banta succeeds L. Werth, Mr. Root succeeds Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Nininger succeeds Mr. Ware and Mr. Lamb fills out the unexpired term of A. J. Biegel, who died a few weeks ago.

Mrs. C. H. Vanpel succeeds herself as a member of the park board and J. P. Dodge was returned to the springs commission, neither having opposition.

All of the candidates elected are men of integrity and business ability, and the affairs of Ashland will receive their best efforts.

The total vote polled was but about one-third the voting strength of the city, being 824, divided among the wards as follows: First ward 231, second ward 246, third ward 347. The vote of councilmen by wards was as follows:

First Ward.	
C. W. Banta	103
W. H. McNair	73
G. W. McNabb	53
Second Ward.	
C. W. Root	202
C. Cunningham	43
Third Ward.	
A. C. Nininger, two years	138
W. J. Carpenter, two years	128
J. B. Ware, two years	75
A. L. Lamb, one year	191
James H. Doran, one year	129

All Three Prizes in Letter Writing Contest Won By Girls

The judges in the high school letter-writing contest met on Monday night and completed the work of passing on the merits of the letters entered for competition. There were fifty-three letters entered for the three prizes offered by the publicity department. All three were won by girls, Mildred Million taking the first prize of \$5, Mary Mathes the second of \$3, and Myrtle De Carlo the third of \$2. The first ten in order were the three prize winners as above and Essie Glendinning, Gerald Gunter, Harold Frohbach, Hazel Powell, Glennell Roberts, David Whittle and Sam D. Koehler.

Several letters that were ranked high on the various points had to be penalized because the writers paid no attention to the limit on the number of words allowed under the conditions of the contest. The limit was 300 words. The judges allowed fifteen words over this limit, and then penalized letters one point for every five words over 315. This was done in order to be fair to those who carefully revised their letters to bring them inside the limit. Some letters contained over 400 words, which indicated the student had not given much thought to the conditions of the contest.

Many of the letters are excellent and are well worth reproduction. The publicity department expects to make good use of them.

FIRST PRIZE LETTER

(Written by Mildred Million)
Dear Friend:
Living so far away as you do, perhaps you have not heard of the splendid little city in which I live. Ash-

land has a population of between five and six thousand people. Intellectually and morally it is an ideal place in which to make one's home.

The educational advantages are excellent. Ashland has three fine schools, two grade schools and a high school, all with modern equipments. Ashland high school was built at a cost of seventy-five thousand dollars. The school is situated on a six-acre tract of land and has a fine athletic field and tennis court. The building is equipped with a gymnasium, manual training and a cooking and sewing department. One is also able to obtain a course in pedagogy and a commercial course in Ashland high.

During the summer usually a ten days' Chautauqua is held, connected with which are classes of an educational nature besides the regular entertainments given. The Chautauqua building is situated in the Chautauqua park, where it is cool and restful on the warm summer days. Ashland possesses an artistic little theatre in which the best advantages of the film world are produced, together with some of the best plays that come to the Pacific Coast.

Located near Ashland are soda, sulphur and lithia springs. The lithia water is being piped into the new park which has been under construction since the first of last summer. This mineral water is valuable for its medicinal qualities. The park is equipped with a playground for the children, two tennis courts and an auto camp ground. This is but one of the many interesting places to visit in and about Ashland. Hoping that you will give Ashland all the

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Highway To Yreka Open Soon

Within a month the Pacific Highway from the Oregon line to Yreka will be open for travel. The road from Ashland over the Siskiyou has stood the storms so far this winter in good shape. The new road from the California line to Yreka will of course be somewhat soft during the coming spring, but will be a great improvement over the old road around by Hornbrook. By next summer the road from Ashland to Yreka will be in fine shape and an easy Sunday trip for autoists will be to the Siskiyou county seat and return.

The new highway from Yreka to the state line, twenty-seven miles, is now all graded. Between the river and Yreka there are yet to be put in two steel bridges, across the Shasta river. The concrete piers are finished and the steel is on the ground. With two weeks of fair weather both structures will be completed and travel over the road will begin. The concrete top will be put upon the road next spring.

Local C. A. C. Team Loses Close Game

The local militia boys showed that they have developed a most promising basketball team by holding the fast University of Oregon Y. M. C. A. team down to a score of 28 to 23 at the local armory Tuesday evening. A good sized crowd was present and went away well pleased with the exhibition put up by the locals. The Ashland boys have developed a team which before the end of the season will be equal to the best of them, from green material. Three of the militia players are playing their first basketball this year.

The Oregon bunch put up a fast game, McCready and Wheeler starring. Wheeler is a varsity man and put up some basketball which seemed rather rough to the local fans, who are not familiar with the collegiate game.

Millard Grubb was easily the star for the locals and displayed a slipperiness and remarkable ability to handle the ball which had the visitors' outshone a mile. He scored 15 of Ashland's 23 points.

The lineups and points scored were as follows:
Y. M. C. A.—Walkins, C., 2; McCready, F., 12; Dimm, C.; Wheeler, G., 14; McCallen, G.
Ashland—Grubb, F., 15; Brown, F.; Freeman, C., 6; Grubb, G.; O'Donohue, G. Sergeant substituted for Brown and scored two points. Referee, L. Mowat; umpire, Peter Spencer.

The visiting Y. M. C. A. people were tendered a reception after the game by the young people of the city. Last night they conducted a rally at the Presbyterian church and tonight will conduct a rally in the Baptist church, followed by a basketball game at the high school.

The game tonight is looked forward to with interest as it will be the first opportunity for the public to see the 1915-16 high school basketball team in action.

Twenty-nine Boys For Band Work

Twenty-nine boys, most of whom were accompanied by their parents, met with Carl Loveland, the new band director, at the city hall Wednesday evening to organize the beginners' band work. Mr. Loveland expresses himself as more than pleased with the turnout and states that most of the boys either have instruments or will receive instruments from their parents. There is still room for many more, however, and every young man and boy in Ashland who wishes to take up band work should see Mr. Loveland at once and make arrangements to get started with the rest. All of the boys who work hard and develop will be taken into the regular Ashland band as they reach the required degree of proficiency.

Parents of Ashland who wish to get their boys started in music, and the kind of music in which a lasting interest will be kept up by the boys, will do well to see Mr. Loveland and discuss the matter with him.

A brick of ice cream will tastefully finish the Christmas dinner. Rose Bros. make 'em.

Start Movement To Bring Tourists

The Portland Chamber of Commerce invites all Oregon civic and business organizations to undertake a great movement for the purpose of interesting tourist travel to Oregon and the Northwest in 1916. To secure a maximum of success the movement must have the cooperation of every organization within the state. This is an all-Oregon proposition.

It is to be known as Letter-Writing Week, beginning January 17 and ending January 22. From Portland alone it is figured that two million letters will be sent out during these six days. Every merchant will be asked to write 50 letters to Eastern businessmen, friends and relatives; every citizen will be asked to write at least ten letters addressing them to sections throughout the East, South and North. In Portland these letters will be gathered at noon each day and deposited in a mammoth letter box on the street, and photographs of the great heap of letters will be taken at the conclusion of the week.

The Portland Chamber of Commerce asks the Ashland Commercial Club to send a delegate to Portland to attend a great meeting on the night of January 5 to work out plans for making a state-wide letter-writing campaign.

Ashland should take up this campaign with the hearty support and cooperation of every man, woman and child behind the work. Ashland will receive a direct cash benefit from almost every tourist who visits Oregon and it is up to the people of this city to keep the scenery, mineral waters and climate of Ashland before the eyes and ears of the world in every possible manner.

Ashland is a pioneer in the work of making a commercial asset of scenery and climate in Oregon and no spot in this state has half the combination of climate, scenery and health-giving waters, which Ashland can offer. Name, if you can, another city or village in Oregon which has more tourist attractions. Tourist attractions do not mean the attractions altogether which the big cities can offer. Tourists get those things at home. But climate, scenery and a variety of mineral waters they do not have at home and cannot find to equal Ashland's any place in Oregon. Every Ashlander can well afford to ask himself a few questions about his home town and then write the answers to his friends in the east.

Anticipate Great Tourist Travel

The Union Pacific railway announces that in an advertising campaign to be conducted throughout the east and middle west beginning with January 1, it will shout the glories of the scenic wonders of the northwest, including Crater Lake. The war in Europe can not end in time to permit of foreign tourist travel, and the railroads of the west are looking forward to the greatest tourist travel of years during the coming summer.

During the past year times were so hard throughout the east that the tourist travel was unusually light despite the great exposition on the coast, and as a matter of fact over 50 per cent of the attendance at the San Francisco fair was from California. With the good times now existing throughout the east and the Pacific coast the only Mecca left for the tourist, travel next year should be the greatest yet.

Postoffice Open One Hour Xmas

Next Saturday being Christmas day, the Ashland postoffice will be open for business only one hour, between 9 and 10 in the morning. The general delivery, stamp and parcel post windows will be open for business. No registry business will be written, though incoming registered mail will be distributed. The city carriers will make one complete delivery and the parcel post wagon will also work. The rural carrier will make his usual trip. One collection from street letter boxes.

Watch Rose Bros' window for bargains in Christmas candles.